

congressional district of West Virginia, Ms. Marilyn Leftwich, an extraordinary employee of the Federal Prison Camp in Alderson, WV. Upon her retirement on August 31, 1995, Ms. Leftwich will have completed almost 25 years of service. Throughout her career, she has been a professional role model for the staff, and has had a great impact on the various programs at Alderson Federal Prison Camp.

Ms. Leftwich received her bachelor's degree at Bluefield State College, in Bluefield, WV, and her master's degree at Liberty University, during a career which began in 1970. Starting as a correctional officer, she was soon promoted to correctional counselor, community programs coordinator, and eventually to her current position as unit manager. Besides her accomplishments at work, Ms. Leftwich has raised a family of three children, and has been very active in the community, and her church. She has also received a number of awards for her work and dedication to the community and her job, some of which include the Outstanding Achievement Award, Employee of the Month, and Outstanding Performance Appraisal Awards. Active in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People [NAACP], and in the development of the Alderson Federal Prison Camp Affirmative Action Program, Ms. Leftwich will long be remembered for her hard work to establish equality in all realms of society. Her involvement in community programs like these, has helped the Federal Prison Camp build and maintain a sound relationship with the surrounding community, as well as having a great impact in the attempt of creating a diverse work force.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Leftwich's dedication throughout the years has been vital in developing community project for the Prison Camp, including a program in which inmates donate clothing for needy families in the community. She helped to organize a group of inmates to maintain a section of the highway under the Adopt a Highway program. Her most recent project was called "Mothers and Infants Together," which allows for pregnant inmate mothers to bond with their newborn babies for a period of 3 months.

At a time when there has been so much focus on reducing government spending, we should appreciate the many programs which Ms. Leftwich developed and supervised. A shining example is the institution sewing room, which has saved the government money by producing maternity clothing and reupholstering services, sewing drapes and other items, while at the same time providing meaningful employment for the inmate workers.

We must commend Ms. Leftwich on her effort to include the inmates into as many projects as possible. These projects served both the inmates and the community, which is an ideal way to let the public know that the inmates should not be forgotten members of society.

Ms. Leftwich's retirement will bring a great void to the staff at the Federal Prison Camp in Alderson, WV. After she retires, Ms. Leftwich plans to continue her community service and council children. She is an extraordinary woman, who has had a great impact of the female inmates and the community of Alderson, WV over the years.

UNITED STATES COOPERATION
WITH THE INTERNATIONAL
PARTNERS, INCLUDING RUSSIA,
IN THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE
STATION

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 21, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for the international space station program. The first phase of this, the most challenging international technological project ever attempted, has already started with the space shuttle missions to Mir, the space station that has been operated by Russia for over 8 years. Just a few weeks ago, NASA and the Russian Space Agency demonstrated that joint operations in space are possible as the crew of *Atlantis* docked with Mir and became the largest, and most populated, spacecraft to ever orbit the Earth with its combined crew of 10. It was a flawless mission that provided our scientists with the opportunity to study the effect of long-duration space travel on one of our own astronauts and, for the first time, on two cosmonauts.

Conducting these joint operations and joint scientific experiments on the shuttle/Mir aboard Mir teaches our two space agencies to work together. This provides valuable experience and test data that will greatly reduce the risk during assembly and operation of the international space station. Conducting scientific experiments aboard Mir also gives our researchers the opportunity to benefit from long-term space flight—something not currently available on shuttle flights that only average about 10 days' duration.

By incorporating Russia into the partnership, space station construction costs to the United States are reportedly decreased by about \$2 billion overall, and it will be completed at least 15 months sooner than planned before Russia's inclusion. The Russian partnership will allow America to tap into the Russians' vast experience. Russians have nearly three times more time in orbit than Americans.

But more importantly, as democracies the world over now face many difficult situations, we can look to the international space station program as the preeminent example of just how much we can accomplish when former adversaries work with each other, not against each other.

SALUTE TO CAROL JENIFER,
DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF THE INS

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 21, 1995

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, given that we are so frequently confronted with the troubles and the travails of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, I would like to have the following uplifting article inserted in the RECORD. The article profiles Carol Jenifer, the first African-American woman to manage day-to-day operations in an INS district office. Ms. Jenifer is the District Director of the INS district office at the United States-Canada border located in my hometown of Detroit, MI. I hope and ex-

pect that the INS will continue to attract and promote individuals of Ms. Jenifer's caliber.

CAN BUSINESS STILL SURVIVE IN OUR CITIES?

(By Anita Lienert)

Carol Jenifer does not look like a huggable person. She wears her hair in a Marine Corps-style buzz cut and shuns makeup and jewelry. Although she's six feet tall, she seems even taller, carrying herself with a military bearing that reflects her years as a police officer in Washington, D.C. She carries a gold badge that says "District Director" and has just ordered a Glock handgun to keep in her desk. To get inside her office at the U.S.-Canada border in Detroit, you need to get by a metal detector and armed employees.

So when one of her clients leaps out of a seat in the waiting room at the Detroit branch of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service and gives Jenifer a big hug, it seems somewhat out of place.

"Oh, Miss Jenifer," says Chadia Haidous, a Lebanese immigrant. "I just got sworn in today! I'm an American citizen! And now I don't have to worry about my daughter."

Jenifer, 45, the first African-American woman to manage day-to-day operations at one of the 33 INS district offices in the United States, hugs her back and rejoices with the Haidous family.

Moments later, loping up the back steps to her office that overlooks the Detroit River, Jenifer explains that little Alica Haidous, 11, who was born in Senegal, could have faced deportation because her mother was not a U.S. citizen.

"The family was afraid the daughter would have to go back to Senegal unescorted," Jenifer explains. "I could have stuck to the book, but why? I made a heart decision and I made it in the name of family unity. I could have sent her back and had them petition for her, but I didn't. And now it won't happen because we don't treat our citizens like that."

Jenifer, who oversees a hectic operation with a \$14 million annual budget, considers herself one of the new breed of INS managers. While the southern border with Mexico draws most of the media attention, INS officials say the northern border has its share of illegal immigrants—they just don't talk about how many.

Therefore, it's her mission to walk a tightrope to satisfy a number of different constituents, from American taxpayers who are disturbed by the large number of illegal aliens entering the country, to immigrants who complain about long lines and insensitive treatment at INS offices.

One of Jenifer's first management decisions was to improve the atmosphere by installing brighter lights in the crowded waiting room. She is considering hiring a customer-service representative to handle complaints generated by the 48 million people who pass through INS checkpoints in her jurisdiction each year, including the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel, the Ambassador Bridge and Detroit Metropolitan Airport. She is also determined to hire an inspector who is fluent in Arabic because her client base is 50 percent Middle Eastern and no one in the office is fluent in that language.

Jenifer has made it a point to get to know the names—and personal details—of the 254 employees and one drug-sniffing dog who work with her in patrolling eight ports of entry along 804 miles of water boundary between the United States and Canada.

So far, one of Jenifer's "employee" relations challenges has been communicating with the German shepherd: Gitta only responds to commands in German. Even so, Jenifer still knows how to work a room—whether it's full of customers or employees—